Quarrel between pilots and cabin crew

†1230. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a quarrel broke out on any matter among pilots and cabin crew of the plane number IC 884 enroute to Delhi from Sharjah on 3 October, 2009;

(b) if so, the details of the places of such quarrel and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether fighting took place among them which could have caused a major accident; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to prevent such incidents alongwith the action taken against the guilty in this case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Appropriate disciplinary action has been initiated against the concerned crew.

Warning signal equipment in Bell 430 helicopter

1231. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that warning signal equipment installed in Bell 430 helicopter carrying Chief Minister Andhra Pradesh and other failed after its crash;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these Choppers are used by elite personalities and VIPs;

(c) if so, the number of Bell 430 helicopters in operation in India;

(d) whether the effectiveness and proficiency of equipment installed therein have been verified after this accident; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The accident is under investigation.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Three Bell 430 helicopters are in operation in India.

(d) and (e) The accident is under investigation.

Losses of Air India and Indian Airlines

1232. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India and Indian Airlines are incurring losses for a long time; and

(b) the measures that have been undertaken to correct the ailment?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. NACIL has taken several initiatives to turnaround the performance of the company focussing on Cost Reduction and Revenue Enhancement.

User charges on air passengers

1233. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi International Airport Ltd. (DIAL) have levied on passengers development fee on both domestic and international routes;

(b) if so, the reasons for charging this fee from the passengers for services that are not available;

(c) whether Government would intervene and withdraw charging the passengers by DIAL and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether DIAL have increased parking fee at the domestic and international terminals;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) what are the reasons for charging exorbitant parking charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) DIAL has prepared a Master Plan for modernisation of the airport to world class standards, well in time for commonwealth Games 2010. The Master Plan is under implementation at the presently estimated cost of Rs.8975 crores. Keeping in view the paramount importance of completing the project in time for the Commonwealth Games, the Government have, approved, purely on an *ad-hoc* basis, the levy of Development fee @ Rs.1300/- per departing international passenger and @Rs.200/- per departing domestic passenger with effect from 01.03.2009, for a period of 36 months, to bridge the funding gap.

(d) to (f) M/s DIAL have informed that they have introduced a slab in parking rates *w.e.f.* 01.08.2008 instead of flat rates applicable earlier. The parking rates have been revised to encourage maximum vehicles to go out within the first 30 minutes to avoid traffic congestion in the car parking areas during peak hours.

Air lines operating from Sanganer Airport, Jaipur

†1234. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 585 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th November, 2006 and state:

(a) the names of the airlines operating international flights and destinations thereof from the Sanganer Airport at Jaipur;

(b) whether the city of Jaipur showed its presence on international aviation map merely on the basis of two-three flights;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.